

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed March 12, 2007 has been carefully considered.

Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 7 - 26 are pending in the application. Claims 12 - 26 have been canceled.

Support for these changes may be found in the specification, drawings, and claims as originally filed. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that no new matter has been added.

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment

Claims 7 – 26 were rejected under 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being directed to a non-elected invention.

In response, applicants have canceled claims 12 - 26. Furthermore, applicants respectfully submit that the claimed subject matter of claims 7 - 11 is contained in the originally elected invention as claimed.

Applicants reserve the right to claim the subject matter of claims 12 - 26 in one or more divisional patent applications.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.


If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

THELEN REID & PRIEST, LLP

Dated: 4/11/07


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